Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17111 101415Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 STR-04 XMB-02 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /109 W

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O 101245Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3940 AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

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USOECD

PASS: CEA, TREAS, FRB

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OECD, ECON

SUBJ: JUNE 14-15 MEETING OF ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (EPC): ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF EPD WORKING PARTY II ON ECONOMIC CROWNING PARTY II ON ECONOMIC CROWNING

ECONOMIC GROWTH: DUTCH CANDIDATE EMERGES

REF: PARIS 17015

1. DUTCH DELEGATION TO OECD AHS INFORMED MISSION THAT NETHERLANDS ARE NO ALSO MAKING AVAILABLE A CANDIDATE FOR CHAIRMANSHIP OF EPC'S WORKING PARTY 2. PERSON IN QUESTION IS C.A. VAN DEN BELD, DIRECTOR, CENTRAL PLANNING BUREAU. WE UNDERSTAND THAT VAN DEN BELD'S CANDIDACY IS BEING PUT FORWARD ON SAME BASIS AS BRITISH AND NORWEGIAN CANDIDATES; THAT IS, HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE IF OTHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 17111 101415Z

COUNTRIES WANT HIM, BUT DOES NOT WISH TO ENTER INTO A "RACE". DUTCH DELEGATION ALSO OFFERED ITS OPINION THAT THEY FELT WP2 CHAIRMAN SHOULD BE A EUROPAN, SINCE PROSPECTS WERE THAT WITHIN EPC AND ITS WORKING GROUP, PREDOMINANT ROLE IN CHAIRMANSHIPS WILL BE HELD BY "OVERSEAS COUNTRIES", I.E. U.S. IN CASE OF EPC (SCHULTZE), JAPAN FOR WP3 (MATSUKAWA) AND CANADA FOR WP4 (SLATER).

2. COMMENT: EMERGENCY OF DUTCH CANDIDATE TENDS TO REINFORCE MISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS IN REFTEL THAT BEST STANCE FOR U.S. IS TO REMAIN NEUTRAL ON WP2 CHAIRMANSHIP. DUTCH CANDIDATE ALSO MAKES IT MORE LIKELY THAT EPC NEXT WEEK WILL POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF ELECTING CHAIRMAN FOR WP2.

3. FOR THE HAGUE: REFTEL IS BEING REPEATED TO THE HAGUE AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY THE HAGUE'S EVALUATION OF VAN DEN BELD'S SUITABILITY FOR CHAIRING WP2. KATZ

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